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...S#302464.1 (5022)
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Andrew Hanson et al. Art Unit 2151
Serial No. 09/800,766
Filed March 6, 2001
Confirmation No. 3902
For SYSTEM FOR CREATING DOCUMENT ORGANIZER
Examiner Khanh Q. Dinh

November 17, 2004

Amendment A

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

SIR:

In response to the Office action of September 9, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

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Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the title of the application as it appears on page 1 of the originally filed application as follows:

SYSTEM FOR CREATING A SPACE-EFFICIENT DOCUMENT CATEGORIZER FOR TRAINING AND TESTING OF AUTOMATIC CATEGORIZATION ENGINES

Please add the following new paragraphs at page 2 after paragraph [0004] and before the BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS of the originally-filed application.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Embodiments of the invention overcome one or more deficiencies in the prior art by providing, among other things, a space-efficient database system optimized for the process of categorizing pages and creating a stable training and testing environment for the generation of automatic categorization engines. The present invention provides a database that is stable and independent of any changes that may occur to the contents of an original page. Accordingly, a method (or an apparatus) for providing a space-efficient database system optimized for the process of categorizing pages is desired to address one or more of these and other disadvantages.

In accordance with one aspect of the invention, a method comprises receiving a locator of a network resource and determining if a database already contains stored information derived from the network resource at a previous point in time, effectively freezing the network resource to the previous point in time. The method further comprises storing information derived from the network resource pointed to by the locator of the network resource upon determination that the database does not contain stored information derived from the network resource at the previous point in time. The process of storing

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comprises creating a copy of at least a portion of the network resource pointed to by the locator and writing the copy to the database.

In accordance with another aspect of the invention, an apparatus comprises a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions and a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions. The programming instructions are designed to (i) receive a locator, (ii) determine if information is previously stored; and (iii) store information generally as set forth above.

Alternatively, the invention may comprise various other methods and apparatuses.

Other features will be in part apparent and in part pointed out hereinafter.

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REMARKS

Specification

Applicants amend the title of the present application herein and submit that the amended title is descriptive. If the Office disagrees, Applicants request the courtesy of a phone call to the undersigned at (314) 231-5400.

Applicants amend the specification herein to include a Summary of the Invention.

Claims

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 3-16, and 18-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Bailey is respectfully requested. Applicants further request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 2 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bailey in view of Hoffert et al.

Claim 1

Claim 1 is directed to a method comprising:

- a) receiving a **locator of a network resource**;
- b) determining if a database already contains **stored information derived from the network resource at a previous point in time**, effectively freezing the network resource to the previous point in time; and
- c) upon determination that the database does not contain stored information derived from the network resource at the previous point in time, **storing information derived from the network resource pointed to by the locator of the network resource**, the process of storing comprising:
 - i) creating a copy of at least a portion of the network resource pointed to by the locator, and
 - ii) writing the copy to the database.

(emphasis added). None of the references of record disclose such a method. To anticipate a claim, the single cited reference must expressly or inherently describe each and every element of the claim. M.P.E.P. § 2131. But Bailey fails to disclose multiple elements of claim 1.

First, Bailey fails to disclose "receiving a locator of a network resource." Various types of "locator[s] of a network resource" are contemplated as within the scope of

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claim 1, including the exemplary locator of Applicants' specification, namely, a URL (Uniform Resource Locator) request. In contrast, Bailey merely discloses a web site 130 that processes a user request, or query, for a tangible "product", such as a book, not for a locator of a network resource, such as a URL. (Bailey, column 4, lines 29-33). Bailey receives product queries from users, and provides no teaching or suggestion for receiving a "locator of a network resource" from a user. An example product query set forth in Bailey is "Mark Twain." Such a query is clearly not a "locator of a network resource" as set forth by claim 1.

Second, Bailey fails to disclose a method that includes "determining if a database already contains stored information derived from the network resource at a previous point in time [to] effectively freez[e] the network resource to the previous point in time." The determining process of claim 1 requires an effective freezing of the network resource to the previous point in time, if it is determined that the database already contains the stored information derived from the network resource at a previous point in time. Bailey simply discloses utilizing a query server to match product queries with related products and hypertext links. Bailey does not teach or suggest to one skilled in the art that the network resource should be effectively frozen if the database contains stored information derived at a previous point in time. Instead, Bailey teaches the opposite, that the stored information derived at a previous point in time should be replaced with the newly found information, effectively updating, not freezing, the information. In particular, Bailey notes that if the database is being updated, duplication between the previous database submissions and the latest web submissions are detected and removed, such that the database contains only the new information.

Bailey, column 13, lines 1-45. Freezing provides the benefits of (i) supplying stored information quickly, (ii) supplying stored information in a form that is stable and independent of any changes that might occur to the stored information, and (iii) eliminating inconsistencies when accessing information accessed on a previous occasion. Thus, Bailey teaches away from the claimed invention by updating its database with new information, rather than effectively freezing the information at a previous point in time. As such, Bailey fails to teach or suggest this novel feature of claim 1.

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Third, Bailey fails to teach or suggest storing information derived from the network resource when the method determines that the database does not contain the stored information. Bailey utilizes a spell checker to determine if the product query of the user is spelled correctly when the database contains no keyword associated with the product query. If not spelled correctly, Bailey will correct any misspellings in the product query. The Office states that this spelling correction brought about by the lack of a database match for the product query is a teaching or suggestion for "storing information derived from the network resource pointed to by the locator of the network resource." This reading of the teaching of Bailey is clearly incorrect, as the correctly-spelled product query is not the same as information derived from a network resource. The product query is not a network resource, and the correctly-spelled product query is not derived from a network resource, but rather from the user. Bailey fails to teach or suggest storing network resource information when the database does not contain the stored information. Bailey fails to teach or suggest storing network resource derived information of any kind in response to a lack of such information.

Fourth, Bailey fails to disclose a method that "[creates] a copy of at least a portion of the network resource pointed to by the locator." According to claim 1, once the locator identifies the network resource of interest, the method creates a copy of at least a portion of the network resource. Bailey fails to utilize a locator to locate such a network resource (discussed above), and therefore cannot create a copy of the resource. Moreover, the Office's assertion that correcting a spelling error in a product query and submitting the corrected product query to the server is the same as "creating a copy of at least a portion of the network resource" ignores the claim language. By changing the spelling of the original product query, the corrected product query fails to be a "copy" of the original product query. In addition, the copy must be a "portion of the network resource pointed to by the locator", not the product query submitted by the user. Correcting a misspelled product query has nothing to do with copying a portion of a network resource, and provides no relevant teaching to one skilled in the art.

Moreover, the Hoffert et al. reference fails to remedy the deficiencies of the primary reference described above.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1. Claims 2-14, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, are submitted as patentable for the same reasons as set forth above with respect to claim 1.

If the Office maintains the rejection of the present claim, Applicants request the courtesy of a phone call to the undersigned at (314) 231-5400.

Claim 3

Claim 3 discloses the method of claim 1 wherein storing the information further comprises generating meta information from the copy of the network resource. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, Bailey fails to teach or suggest the creation of a copy of a network resource as contemplated by claim 1. As such, generating meta information from such a copy of a network resource, which is not taught or suggested by Bailey, also cannot be taught or suggested by Bailey. Moreover, the Office's assertion that notification of the spelling change to the product query teaches or suggests generating meta information from the copy of the network resource is without merit, because the notification of a changed product query has no relation to any network resource, but rather involves a rudimentary modification of a user input.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 3. Claims 4-9, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 3, are submitted as patentable for the same reasons as set forth above with respect to claim 3.

Claim 8

In addition to the patentable aspects set forth above, claim 8 discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising (i) receiving instructions to modify the generated meta information and (ii) modifying the generated meta information in accordance with the received instructions to generate modified meta information. The method of claim 8 allows a user to request modification of the meta information and for the method to modify the meta information. Bailey neither teaches nor suggests receiving such instructions. Applicants strongly disagree with the Office's statement that notifying the

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user of the absence of exact matches and informing the user of close matches teaches or suggests the receiving and modifying elements of claim 8. Notifications sent by the web site cannot be considered a teaching or suggestion for the web site receiving instructions regarding modification of meta information. In addition, nothing in Bailey teaches or suggests modifying the generated meta information according to received instructions.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 8. Claim 9, which depends directly from claim 8, is submitted as patentable for the same reasons as set forth above with respect to claim 8.

Claim 13

Claim 13 discloses a method wherein the network resource of one or more world wide web pages comprises a main frame and one or more subframes. Bailey fails to teach or suggest any such network resource comprising one or more world wide web pages that in turn comprise a main frame and one or more subframes. In particular, the assertion by the Office that the search tool interface page of Fig. 2 teaches or suggest such a network resource is incorrect. Recall that claim 1 requires receiving a locator of a network resource. The search tool interface page 200 is not such a network resource, but rather is a search tool interface for entering a product query to locate potential product matches, which may be located in databases 141-147. Claim 13 requires that the network resource itself comprise one or more world wide web pages having a main frame and one or more subframes. Bailey only teaches a search tool interface with a frame, but fails to teach any network resources comprising a main frame and one or more subframes. The search tool interface cannot be considered a teaching or suggestion for a network resource, as the interface is not a network resource as defined by claim 1, from which claim 13 depends.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 13. Claim 14, which depends directly from claim 13, is submitted as patentable for the same reasons as set forth above with respect to claim 13.

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Claim 15

Reconsideration of the rejection of independent claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Bailey is respectfully requested.

Claim 15 discloses an apparatus comprising a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to (i) receive a locator, (ii) determine if information is previously stored, (iii) store information, (iv) create a copy, and (v) write the copy. The apparatus also comprises a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the foregoing programming instructions. The cited art fails to teach or suggest the stored instructions designed to (i) receive a locator, (ii) determine if information is previously stored, (iii) store information, (iv) create a copy, and (v) write the copy. First, Bailey fails to disclose "receiving a locator of a network resource." Bailey merely discloses a web site 130 that processes a user request, or query, for a tangible "product", such as a book, not for a locator of a network resource, such as a URL. Second, Bailey fails to disclose a method that includes "determining if a database already contains stored information derived from the network resource at a previous point in time [to] effectively freez[e] the network resource to the previous point in time." Instead, Bailey teaches the opposite, that the stored information derived at a previous point in time should be replaced with the newly found information, effectively updating, not freezing, the information. Third, Bailey fails to teach or suggest storing information derived from the network resource when the method determines that the database does not contain the stored information. Bailey utilizes a spell checker to determine if the product query of the user is spelled correctly, but correcting the spelling of the product query is not a teaching of storing information derived from a network resource. Fourth, Bailey fails to disclose a method that "[creates] a copy of at least a portion of the network resource pointed to by the locator." Bailey fails to utilize a locator to locate such a network resource, and therefore cannot create a copy of the resource. Moreover, merely changing the spelling of the original product query to a corrected product query fails to be a "copy" of the original product query, as required by the claim. In addition, the copy must be a "portion of the network resource pointed to by the locator", not the product query submitted by the user. Claim 15 is submitted as

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patentable for these reasons. Claims 16-29, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 15, are submitted as patentable for the same reasons as claim 15.

Claim 18

Claim 18 discloses an apparatus wherein the storing the information further comprises generating meta information from the copy. As discussed above with respect to claim 15, Bailey fails to teach or suggest the creation of a copy of a network resource as contemplated by claim 15. As such, generating meta information from such a copy of a network resource, which is not taught or suggested by Bailey, also cannot be taught or suggested by Bailey. Moreover, the Office's assertion that notification of the spelling change to the product query teaches or suggests generating meta information from the copy of the network resource is without merit, because the notification of a changed product query has no relation to any network resource, but rather involves a rudimentary modification of a user input. Claims 19-23, which depend directly from claim 18, are submitted as patentable for the same reasons as claim 18.

Claim 23

Claim 23 discloses an apparatus wherein the programming instructions are further designed to receive instructions to modify the generated meta information and modify the generated meta information in accordance with the received instructions to generate modified meta information. The method of claim 23 allows a user to request modification of the meta information and for the method to modify the meta information. Bailey neither teaches nor suggests receiving such instructions. Applicants strongly disagree with the Office's statement that notifying the user of the absence of exact matches and informing the user of close matches teaches or suggests the receiving and modifying elements of claim 23. Notifications sent by the web site cannot be considered a teaching or suggestion for the web site receiving instructions regarding modification of meta information. In addition, nothing in Bailey teaches or suggests modifying the generated meta information according to received instructions. Claim 24, which depends directly from claim 23, is submitted as patentable for the same reasons as claim 23.

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Claim 28

Claim 28 discloses an apparatus wherein the one or more world wide web pages, of the network resource, comprises a main frame and one or more sub-frames. Bailey fails to teach or suggest any such network resource comprising one or more world wide web pages that in turn comprise a main frame and one or more subframes. In particular, the assertion by the Office that the search tool interface page of Fig. 2 teaches or suggest such a network resource is incorrect. Recall that claim 1 requires receiving a locator of a network resource. The search tool interface page 200 is not such a network resource, but rather is a search tool interface for entering a product query to locate potential product matches, which may be located in databases 141-147. Claim 28 requires that the network resource itself comprise one or more world wide web pages having a main frame and one or more subframes. Bailey only teaches a search tool interface with a frame, but fails to teach any network resources comprising a main frame and one or more subframes. The search tool interface cannot be considered a teaching or suggestion for a network resource, as the interface is not a network resource as defined by claim 15, from which claim 28 depends. Claim 29, which depends directly from claim 28, is submitted as patentable for the same reasons as claim 28.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is requested.

Applicants have reviewed the cited but unapplied references and have found them to be no more pertinent than the art discussed above.

Respectfully submitted,



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Mo. Day	Time	Employee Signature	Employee Signature
Delivery Date	Time	Employee Signature	Employee Signature
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 Client Name **Microsoft Corporation**

Inventor(s) or Mark **Andrew Hanson et al.**

Serial No. **09/800,766** Patent/Reg. No.

The following has been received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date stamped hereon:

Amendment **A (12)** Fee Transmittal Form
 Preliminary Amendment Combined Declaration/Power of Attorney
 Response to Missing Parts Notice Notice of Appeal
 Assignment and Cover Sheet **NOV 17 2005** Status Inquiry
 Brief IDS, PTO/SB/08A, **NOV 17 2005** Reference(s)
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